

ENDANGERED SPECIES ENCROACHMENT RELIEF

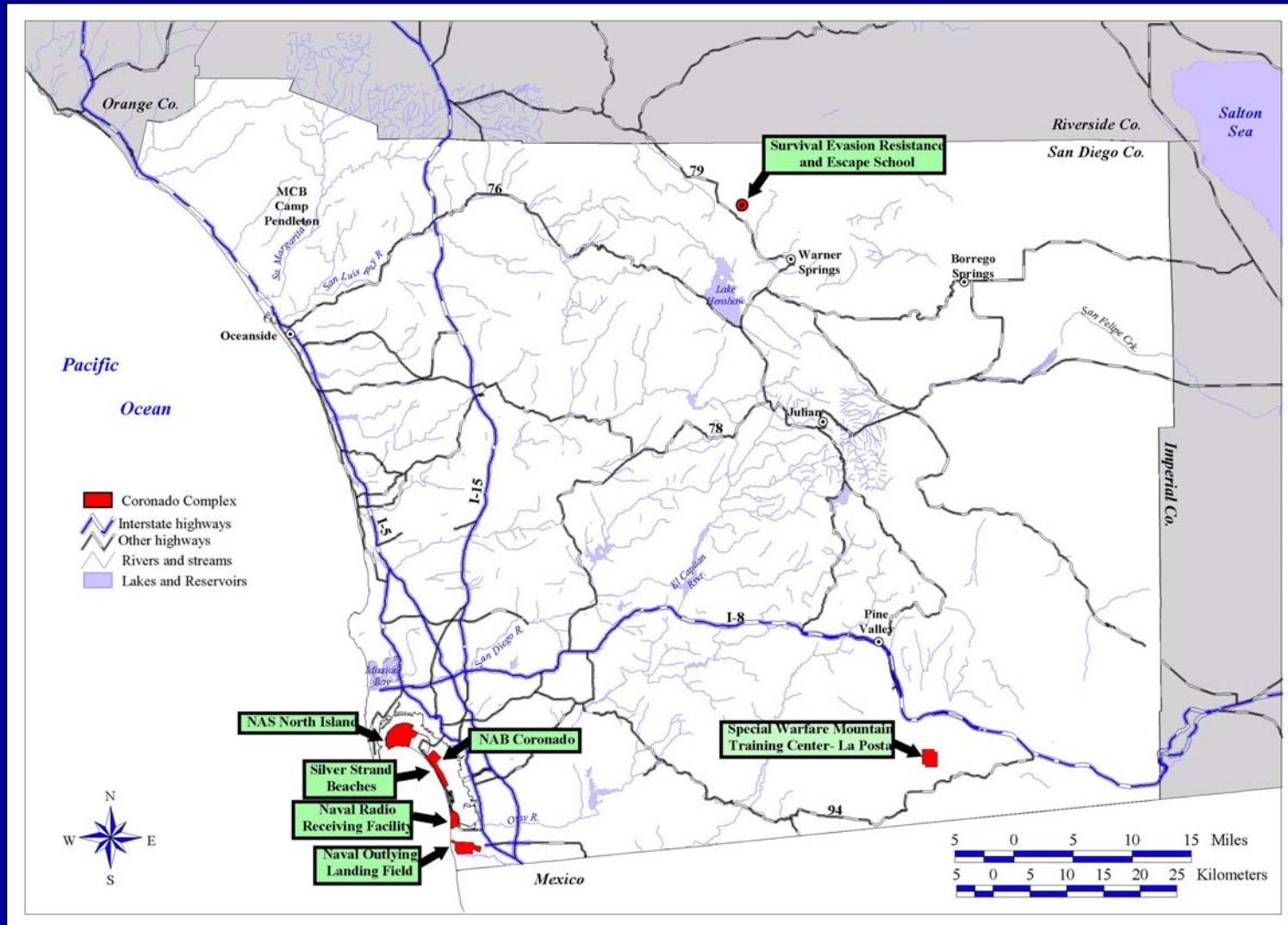
Operator's Wants and Needs



CAPT D. R. Landon
25 AUG 04

Report Documentation Page				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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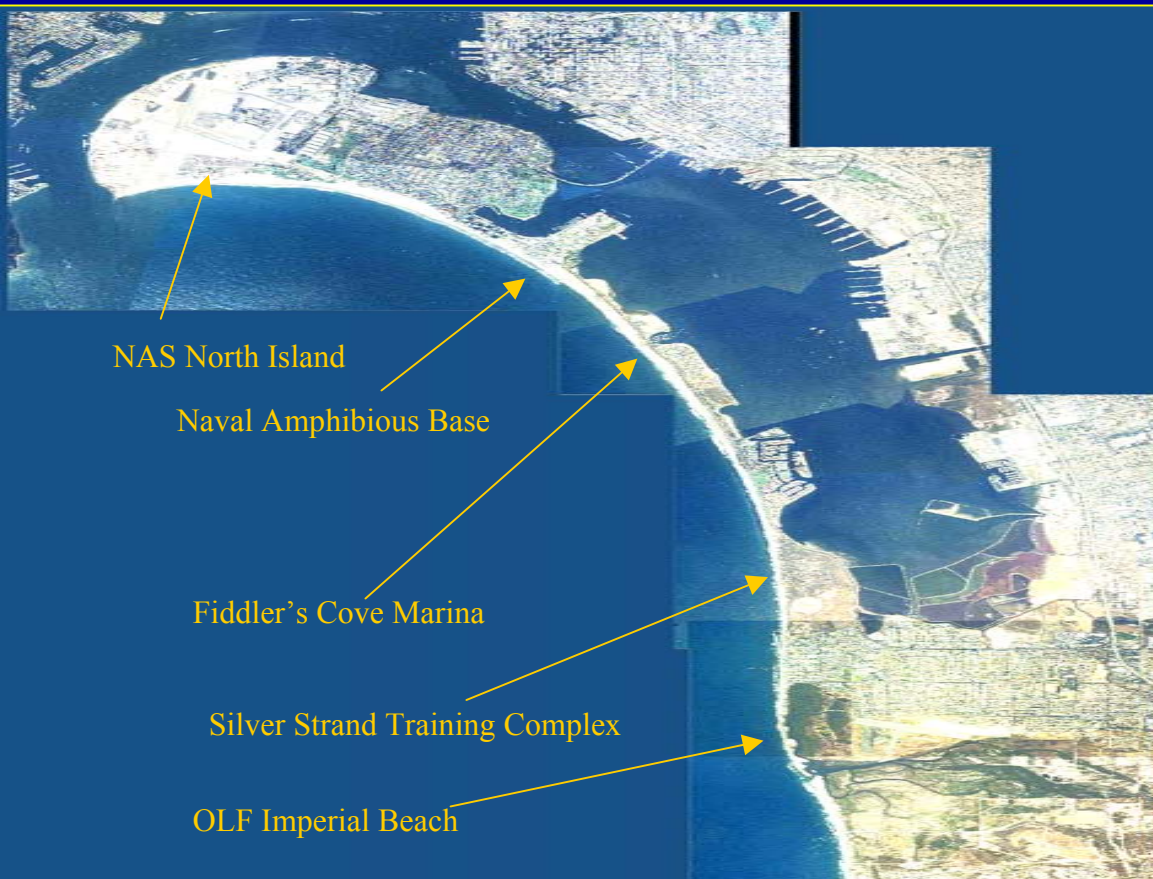
Naval Base Coronado



includes San Clemente Island (not shown), NAS North Island, NAB Coronado Naval Radio Receiving Facility, NOLF Imperial Beach, Special Warfare Mountain Training Center La Posta, and SERE Training School

Naval Base Coronado

Mainland



Endangered Species

- 1 Plant
- 6 Animals

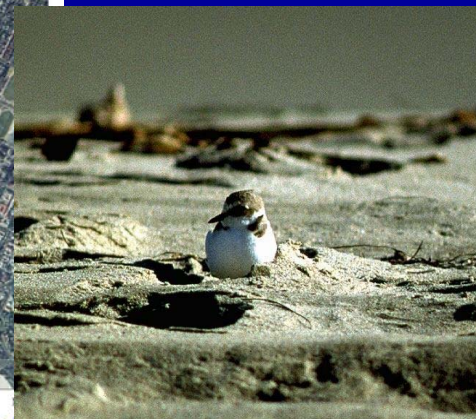
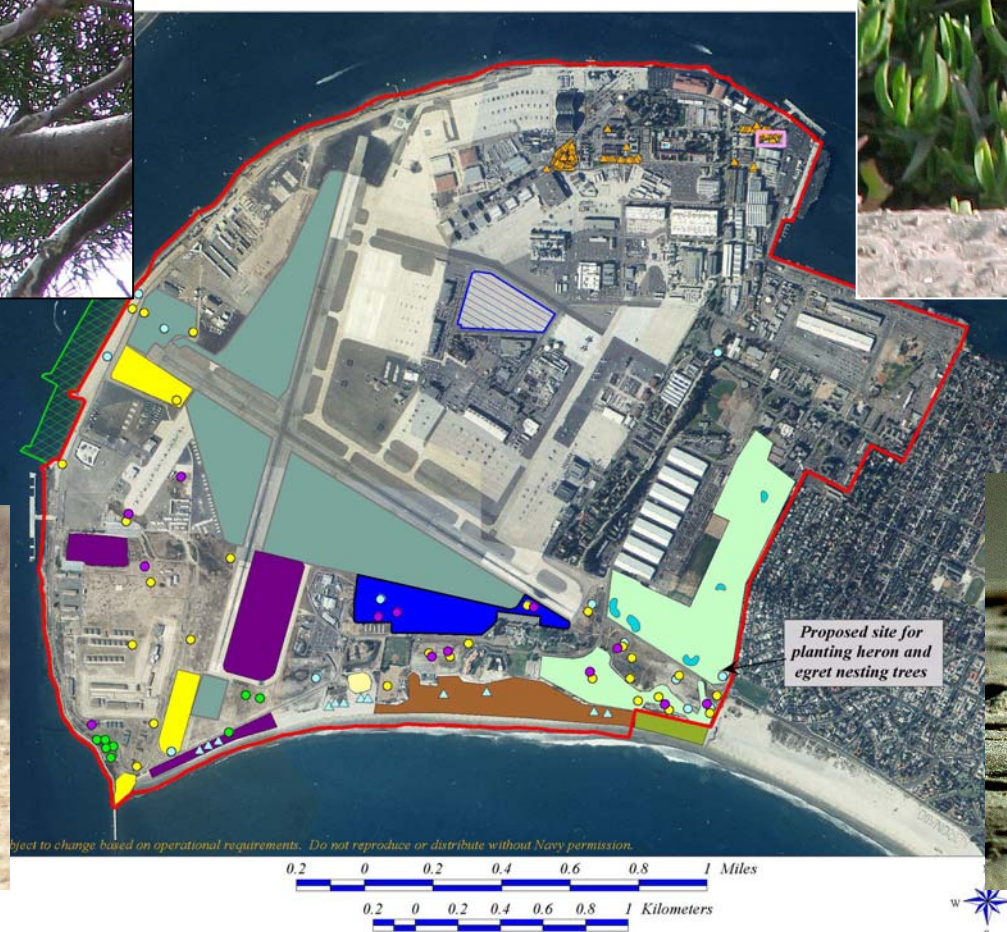
Threatened Species

- 1 Animal

Critical Habitat

- 2 Designations

NAS North Island

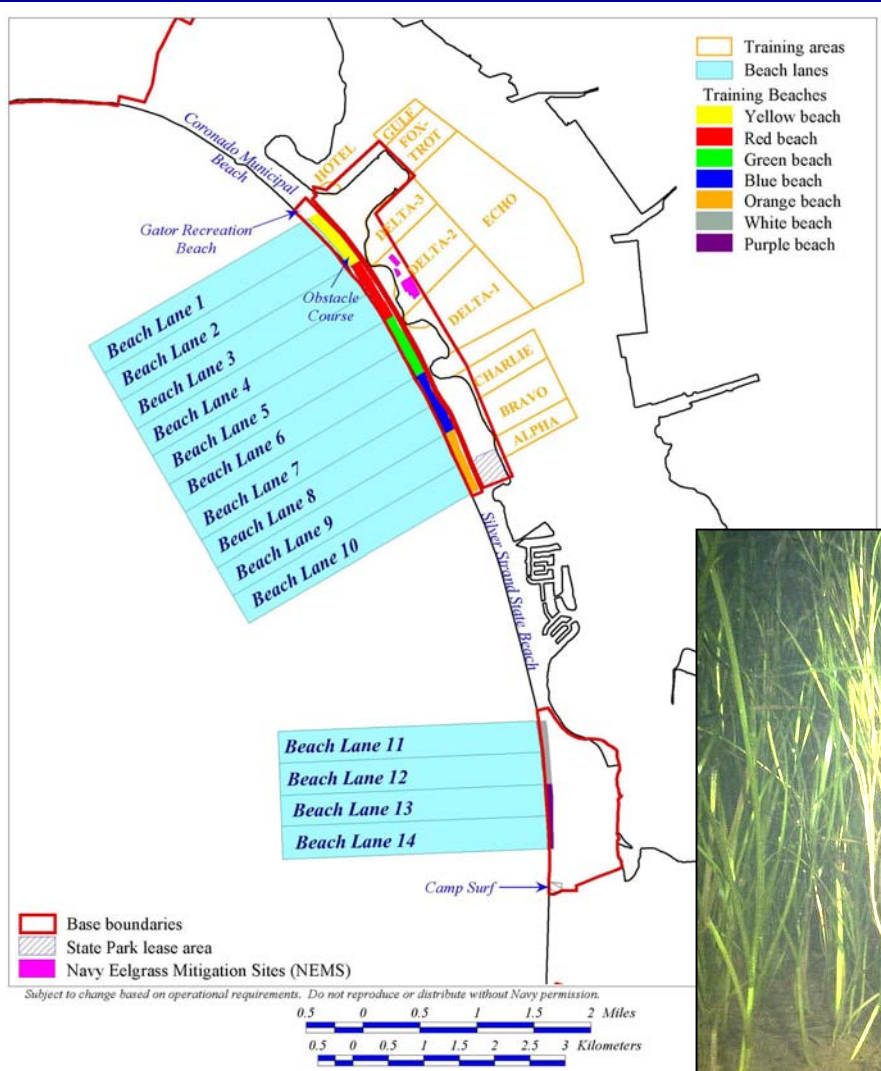


- NASNI boundary
- Dog Beach (open to public)
- Golf Course
- Golf course water hazard
- Swimming Beach
- BASH/FOD Management Area
- Navy Eelgrass Mitigation Site (NEMS)

- Heron Park
- Least Tern Active Nesting ("MAT Site")
- Least Tern alternate nesting sites, currently managed for terns, unused
- Other Least Tern alternate nesting sites (LAMPS BO 1983)
- CVN II plover enhancement area

- ▲ Heron nesting trees
- ▲ Snowy plover nests (2001)
- Burrowing owl nests**
- 1990 ● 1999
- 1995 ● 2001
- Burrowing owl replacement site (CVN I EIS 1995)

NAB Coronado



Navy Management Strategies Since 1984/1993

Site Preparation – All Navy sites are prepared prior to tern and plover nesting by removing vegetation, applying herbicide to non-native plants, grading the sites, removing trash and placing chick shelters in nesting areas. Over time the Navy has also worked to install and maintain protective fencing, remove potential predator perches (e.g. telephone poles) as well as install bird spikes on fences.

Proactive Monitoring – Plover monitoring began in 1993, prior to the species being listed and are surveyed for a minimum of twice a week. All tern nests are marked and monitored at least five times a week.

Conduct Studies - Such as determining the effects of various in-water construction activities on terns and tern foraging activities.

Banding – All individuals that can be captured or collected after hatching are banded with USFWS and site-specific color bands.

Predator Control – Since 1984 species that present a threat to listed species nests, eggs, chicks, or adults are managed by both lethal and non-lethal means. This includes avian and mammalian predators. Ant control began in 1990. Species that are federally or state listed or are of special concern to the USFWS are not managed by lethal means.

Training Coordinator – Since the early 1990s all training requirements have been coordinated through natural resources personnel if conflicts are apparent.

Human Use Restricted – Military operations have avoided nesting locations over time. Recreational users are restricted from areas where terns nest, but access areas below mean high water.

Naval Base Coronado

California Least Tern Nesting Data

Tern Nests at NBC as of 8 Aug 04

Since 1977 Tern Nests
have increased 9130%
since 1977

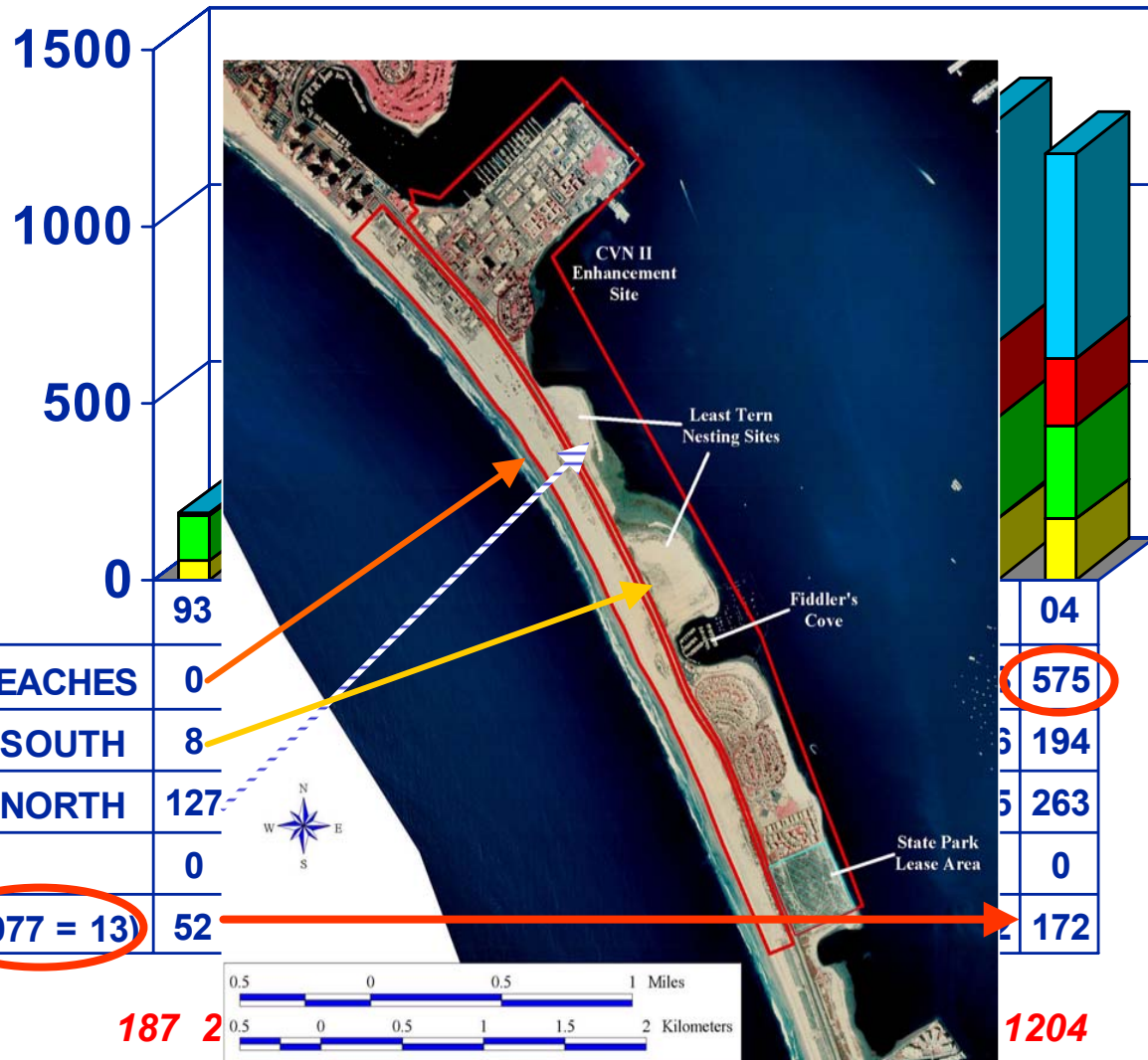


Data from Reports
provided by E. Copper

■ NAB OCEAN SIDE BEACHES	0
■ NAB DELTA BEACH SOUTH	8
■ NAB DELTA BEACH NORTH	127
■ NASNI RUNWAY 11	0
■ NASNI MAT SITE (1977 = 13)	52

TOTAL

187 2



1204

Naval Base Coronado

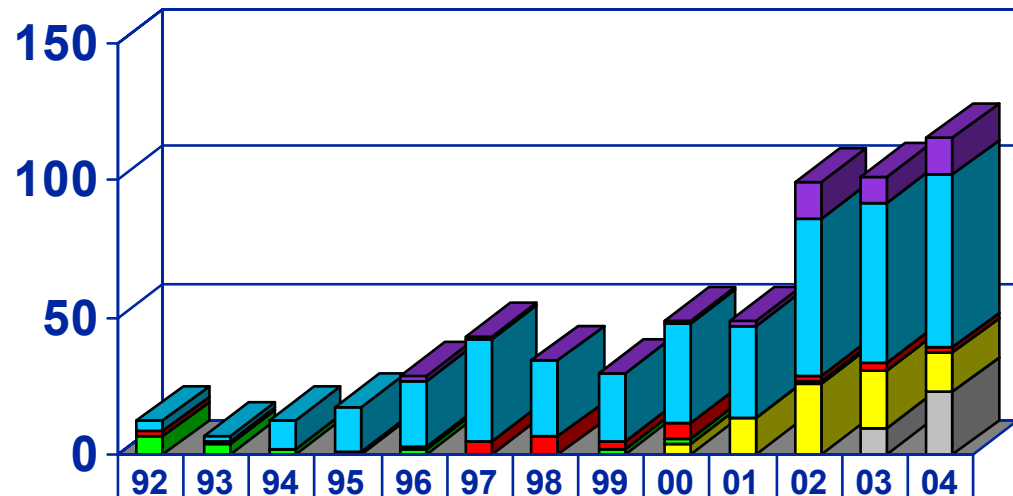
Western Snowy Plover Nesting Data

Plover Nests at NBC as of 8 Aug 04

Since 1992 Plover Nests
have increased 841%



Data from Reports
provided by E. Copper



■ NRRF					2	1	0	0	1	2	13	9	14
■ NAB OCEAN BEACHES	3	2	10	16	24	37	27	25	37	34	57	59	63
■ NAB DELTA BEACH SOUTH	2	1	0	1	1	5	7	3	5	0	2	2	2
■ NAB DELTA BEACH NORTH	7	4	2	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	0
■ NASNI OCEAN									4	13	26	21	14
■ NASNI AIRFIELD												10	23

TOTAL

12 7 12 17 29 43 34 30 49 49 99 101 116



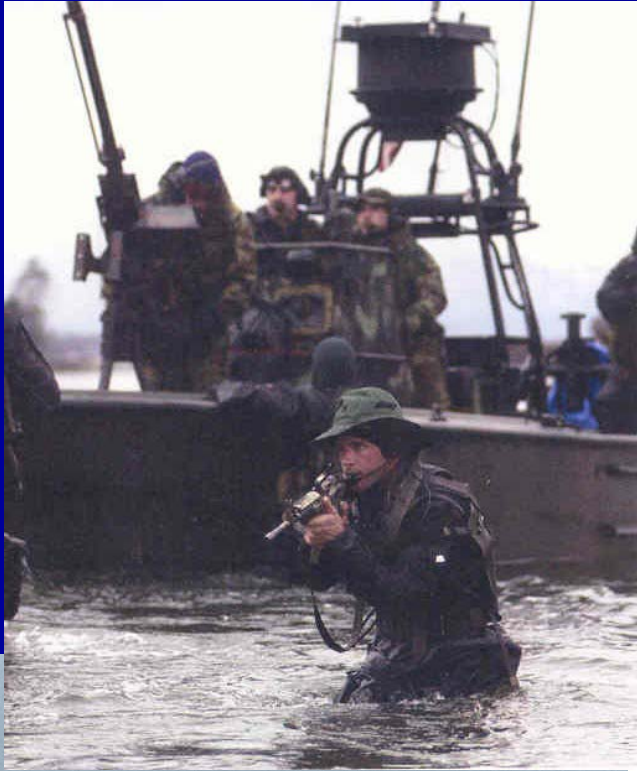
Impacts to Frequency Navy/Marine Corps



Impacts to Quality



Impacts to Realism



Summary of Operational Constraints During Breeding Season (15 March - 15 Sept)

- Schedule all training operations through Naval Beach Group One (NBG-1). Such operations require completion of beach user request form, and restrict exercises to an assigned portion of the beach..
- To ensure compliance with natural resources legislation, coordinate training operations with the Navy Region Southwest, Natural Resources Office.
- All vehicle and pedestrian traffic on ocean-side operational training beaches must use marked beach crossing lanes for crossing the beach, and travel the length of the Silver Strand beaches on either a sand road paralleling State Highway 75 or the hard pack tidal area.
- All personnel must remain well clear of marked nesting sites. These sites are identified using blue traffic cones and small yellow signs reading “Caution: threatened species nesting site - remain clear”. It is the responsibility of the user organization to familiarize themselves with nest locations.
- Restrict military access to least tern preserve on North and South Delta bay beaches.
- Shut and lock beach access gates upon entering or leaving bay-side training beaches (15 Sept – 15 March.)
- Avoid damage to coastal dune vegetation, and remain clear of sensitive coastal dunes located south of demolition pit and east of sand road.
- Area lighting for camps must face toward the camp and not in the direction of areas with potential nest sites.
- Allow access to and cooperate with biologists under contract with the Navy to monitor endangered and threatened species.
- Cooperate with regulatory agencies, and inform CNRSW Natural Resources Office immediately of inquiries or concerns expressed by such agencies.
- Restrict bayside operations to designated portion of Bravo Beach to avoid impacts to eelgrass beds (12 months.)
- In-water construction activities in California least tern foraging areas prohibited during nesting season without prior coordination with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

SOCAL OpAreas

W-289

CPAAA

SOAR

SHOBA

San Diego

QDA

P-7

FLETA

HOT

P-5

P-6

P-8W

CAE 1177

P-8E

AR-651

P-4

P-3

P-2

P-1

W-291

AR-657

MISR-1W

MISR-1E

MISR-2

SCI to San Diego: 62 miles

SCI to Camp Pendleton: 57 miles

SCI to Long Beach: 59 miles

SAN CLEMENTE

Protected Resources

- Sixteen federally listed species

- Four marine mammals
- Four birds
- One reptile
- One marine invertebrate
- Six plants



Sustainable Military Readiness

- To support mission and readiness mandates, the military must have access to unencumbered training ranges. These ranges provide a controlled, realistic environment in which military personnel can safely develop tactical and communication skills, and naval forces can assess performance criteria
- To maintain a well-trained military, soldiers, Sailors, airmen and Marines must train in the same manner as they fight.
- Military lands and training ranges exist to ensure military preparedness by providing realistic training opportunities.
- Flexibility in how these training ranges are used is necessary in preparing for overseas, military operations.

Environmental Stewardship

In addition to our primary mission of defending against foreign threats, the military acts as environmental trustee, helping to protect the environment through prudent and conscientious management of the natural resources of our military lands.

Request for Assistance

GOAL

Reduce disproportionate conservation of federally threatened and endangered species on Navy lands, and sustain the military's access to vital training ranges.

NEED

To support mission and readiness mandates, the military must have access to unencumbered training ranges. These ranges provide a controlled, realistic environment in which military personnel can safely develop tactical and communication skills, and naval forces can assess performance criteria.

ENCROACHMENT ISSUES

- Gains Made but Many Restrictions Still in Place
- Environmental Success sometimes Impacts Training Flexibility – Cause “Constructive Irregularities”.
- Endangered Species – Reluctant to De-Listed.
- No End Game/No Recovery Plans
- Non-Federal Land Holders Afforded Greater Conservation Options.
- Disproportionate conservation of federally threatened and endangered species on Navy lands.

Recommended Actions

- **Recognize the Navy's extremely successful efforts to protect endangered and threatened species.**
- **Dedicate state/local lands to endangered/threatened species.**
- **Develop an avenue for the Navy to mitigate on non-Navy lands.**
- **Enhance existing non-military, nesting sites.**
- **Coordinate endangered and threatened species recovery programs on non-Navy lands.**
- **Ensure operational forces are allowed equal access to the ranges.**
- **Fund INRMPs**
- **Establish recovery plans and success criteria for protected species.**

Questions?

